

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A microtome knife apparatus holder (1) for a cutting knife (2) of a microtome having a knife edge (5) for cutting samples, the knife holder comprising:
a cutting knife (2) having a knife edge (5) for cutting samples;
a knife holder (1) including:
a pressure plate (3) separate from the cutting knife, the pressure plate for locking clamping the cutting knife (2) in the knife holder (1) by applying pressure to the cutting knife and for discharging the cut sample;
and
a U-shaped frame (4) mounted detachably on the pressure plate (3) by magnets (6) and open toward the knife edge (5) of the cutting knife (2);
wherein the frame (4) and the pressure plate (3) cooperate to form a water pan.
2. (canceled)
3. (currently amended) The knife holder (1) apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the frame (4) is a one-piece component.
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (currently amended) The knife holder (1) apparatus as defined in Claim 1, further comprising a fluid seal (7) between the frame (4) and the pressure plate (3).

8. (currently amended) The ~~knife holder (1)~~ apparatus as defined in Claim 1, further comprising a bail (8) pivotably mounted to the frame (4) for selectively covering the knife edge (5) to protect users from cuts.
9. (currently amended) The ~~knife holder (1)~~ apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the U-shaped frame includes two parallel limbs (9), and each of the two limbs (9) is wedge-shaped.